

HOUSE BILL 4147

By Sontany

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-420, relative to the fees for drug testing.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-420, is amended by adding the following language as new appropriately designated subsections:

( ) In addition to all other fines, fees, costs and punishments now prescribed by law, including the fee imposed pursuant to subsection (d), a drug testing fee in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) shall be assessed upon conviction for a violation of any part of the Tennessee Drug Control Act.

( ) This fee shall be collected by the clerks of the various courts of the counties and forwarded to the state treasurer on a monthly basis for deposit in the TBI drug chemistry unit drug testing fund created as provided in subsection ( ), and designated for exclusive use by the Tennessee bureau of investigation for the purposes set out in subsection ( ).

( ) There is created a fund within the treasury of the state of Tennessee, to be known as the TBI drug chemistry unit drug testing fund.

Moneys shall be deposited to the fund pursuant to subsection ( ), and as may be otherwise provided by law, and shall be invested pursuant to § 9-4-603. Moneys in the fund shall not revert to the general fund of the state, but shall remain available for appropriation to the Tennessee bureau of investigation, as determined by the general assembly.

(2) Moneys in the TBI drug chemistry unit drug testing fund and available federal funds, to the extent permitted by federal law and regulation, shall be used to fund a forensic scientist position in each of the

three (3) bureau crime laboratories, to employ forensic scientists to fill such positions, and to purchase, maintain and upgrade the equipment and supplies necessary to carry out, in a timely manner, the increased number of requests for determinations of weight and analysis of submitted substances. To the extent that additional funds are available, such funds shall be used to employ or purchase such other personnel and equipment as may further allow the bureau to analyze and return the results of testing done on submitted substances in a more efficient and expeditious manner.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.